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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

OF

M A L T O N

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1953.

W.R.M. COUPER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.



INCLUDING THE REPORT

OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

Wm. E. WIGGLESWORTH, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.

M A L T O N

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health of the Malton Rural District for the year 1953.

W.R.M. Couper.

Public Health Officers of the Authority:

Medical Officer of Health W.R.M. Couper, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector Wm. E. Wigglesworth, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.

Section A.

STATISTICS AND GENERAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in acres.....	48,078
Estimated population.....	5,590
Number of inhabited houses.....	1,806
Rateable Value.....	£19,989
Product of Penny Rate.....	£ 78

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Births</u>	Male	Female	Total
Live Births	33	44	77
Legitimate	31	41	72
Illegitimate	2	3	5
Still births	3	-	3
Legitimate	3	-	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
All births live and still	36	44	80

Crude Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 population).....	13.8
Illegitimate Rate (percentage of total births).....	3.75%
Still birth Rate (per 1,000 population).....	0.54.

Maternal Mortality

No deaths attributable to pregnancy, childbirth or abortion occurred during the year.

Maternal Mortality Rate..... Nil.

Infant Mortality

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	-	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	1	-	1

Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 related live births)..... 14.3

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	-	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	1	-	1

Neonatal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 related live births)..... 14.3

Deaths

Causes of death in the district for the year ended 31st December, 1953.

Cause of death	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory.....	-	1	1
Tuberculosis, other.....	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease.....	-	-	-
Diphtheria.....	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.....	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections.....	-	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis.....	-	-	-
Measles.....	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases.....	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	-	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.....	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, breast.....	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus.....	-	-	-
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.....	4	1	5
Leukaemia, aleukaemia.....	-	-	-
Diabetes.....	-	-	-
Vascular lesions of the nervous system.....	7	5	12
Coronary disease, angina.....	5	3	8
Hypertension with heart disease.....	1	-	1
Other heart disease.....	7	8	15
Other circulatory disease.....	1	1	2
Influenza.....	-	-	-
Pneumonia.....	1	2	3
Bronchitis.....	-	2	2
Other diseases of the respiratory system.....	-	-	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.....	-	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.....	-	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis.....	-	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate.....	1	-	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.....	-	-	-
Congenital malformations.....	-	-	-
Other defined and ill defined diseases.....	1	2	3
Motor vehicle accidents.....	-	1	1
All other accidents.....	1	-	1
Suicide.....	1	-	1
Homicide and operations of war.....	-	-	-
All causes.....	30	30	60

Crude Death Rate (per 1,000 estimated population)..... 10.7

Comparison of Birth and Death Rates

The crude Birth and Death Rates of any district are not directly comparable with those of England and Wales. To make approximate allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution differs from that of England and Wales as a whole the crude rates are multiplied by a comparability factor.

Crude Live Birth Rate.....	13.8
Comparability factor for births.....	1.23
Adjusted Birth Rate.....	17.0
Crude Death Rate.....	10.7
Comparability factor for deaths.....	0.90
Adjusted Death Rate.....	9.6

Comparative Table of Birth and Death Rates during 1953.

	Rates per 1,000 population			
	Live Birth Rate	Stillbirth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate.
England and Wales	15.5	0.35	11.4	26.8
Malton Rural District	17.0	0.54	9.6	14.3

SECTION B.

Prevalence of and control over Infectious Diseases.

Notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during
the year 1953.

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Cases notified</u>
Measles.....	150
Whooping Cough.....	1
Scarlet Fever.....	2
Erysipelas.....	1
Totals	<u>154</u>

Where necessary cases of infectious disease are admitted to Cross Lane Hospital, Scarborough and Yearsley Bridge Hospital, York.

Tuberculosis

New cases and Mortality during 1953.

<u>Sex</u>	<u>New Cases</u>		<u>Deaths</u>	
	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>
Male	-	-	-	-
Female	1	2	1	-
Totals	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	-

SECTION C.

General Provisions of Health Services.

(i) Laboratory facilities

Samples for bacteriological examination are sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Northallerton. A van calls once a week to collect specimens.

(ii) Local Services under Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

The day to day administration of the following services is carried out by the Ryedale Local Health Sub-Committee in the urban districts of Malton and Pickering and the rural districts of Helmsley, Kirbymoorside, Malton and Pickering.

(a) Care of mothers and young children.

Child welfare and ante-natal clinics are held at 13 centres in the Ryedale area.

In places where no clinic is held ante-natal and child welfare services are carried out by health visitors in the home.

(b) Midwifery, Health Visiting and Home Nursing.

Combined duty nurses serving 16 nursing districts are resident in the area.

(c) Ambulance Service.

Ambulance stations at Malton and Kirbymoorside provide this service.

(d) Immunisation and Vaccination

Provision is made for primary immunisation against Diphtheria at child welfare centres but the greater part of this service is carried out by general practitioners in their surgeries and in the home.

(e) Domestic Help Service

This service provides domestic help, at a charge dependent on the income of the household, in homes where there has been a confinement or ill-health of the mother and to the aged and infirm.

National Assistance Act, 1948 and National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951.

Section 47 of the 1948 Act and the amendment Act make provision for securing necessary care and attention for persons who are suffering from grave chronic disease, or being aged, infirm or physically handicapped, are living in insanitary conditions and are unable to devote to themselves and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

One female who was aged and infirm was removed to hospital under the Amendment Act and was subsequently detained under the 1948 Act. She was living in deplorable circumstances, no help was available to look after her in her own home.

Sanitary Inspector's Report, 1953.

Sanitary Circumstances

Water Supply

Analysis of Water Samples.

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory.</u>
Whitwell	P.F.	1	
Slingsby	P.F.	2	
Brawby	P.F.	1	
Welburn	P.F.	2	
Sheriff Hutton	P.F.	1	

Private Supplies

Coneysthorpe	Spring	1	
Hovingham	Spring	1	
Huttons Ambo	Spring		1

It will be seen from the above table that the public water supplies have been maintained in a satisfactory condition and are of good quality.

A sample taken from a private supply at Huttons Ambo proved unsatisfactory and alternative arrangements were made by the owner.

Details of the number of houses supplied with water laid on to the houses or supplied by pillar fountain or other means are not yet available for the whole area. The figures for those parishes surveyed under the Housing Rural Survey are as follows:-

<u>Parish</u>	<u>No.1 of Houses with water laid on.</u>	<u>No.of Houses served by standpipe.</u>	<u>No.of Hous served by wells etc.</u>
Welburn	69	20	1
Broughton	24	9	1
Swinton and Swinton Grange	85	39	4
Appleton-le-Street	7	7	-
Barton-le-Street	13	11	1
Amotherby	42	16	3
Seackleton	56	3	22
Slingsby	<u>101</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>1</u>
Totals	371 347	<u>140</u>	33 <u>36</u>

Refuse Disposal

The more adequate refuse collection service approved towards the end of the year should do much to relieve the unsatisfactory conditions caused by the continued deposit of ashes and other refuse near to dwelling houses.

The absence of dustbins by the majority of privately owned houses will, however reduce the efficiency and value of this improved service and this is a problem which will require some consideration in the near future.

Sewage Disposal

The completion of the Welburn Sewage Scheme brings into operation the first public modern sewage disposal plant in the area. The works are sited in a substantial area of land which may increase the cost of maintenance if the site is to be kept tidy and it is felt that the amount of land purchased for sewage works sites should be kept to the minimum compatible with need if overhead costs are to be kept to a minimum.

The difficulties incurred on the Street Villages Sewage Scheme have of necessity taken up much valuable time and completion may not be expected until the latter half of 1954.

pd.

All shops and food preparing premises were inspected during the year. No outbreak of food poisoning has occurred.

Synopsis of Inspections Made.

Dwelling Houses:-

Consolidated Regulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Improvement Grants (Section 20)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	283

Sanitary Conveniences:-

Ashpits and Privies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Chemical Closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6

Refuse Disposal:-

Tips	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Refuse Collections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	81

Drains and Sewers:-

Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	685
Cesspools and Septic Tanks	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160
Water Tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	61
Public Urinals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-

Factories:-

With mechanical power	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Without mechanical power	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-

Food:-

Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Condemnations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

Food Storage (Preparation, etc):-

Butchers' shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Fish friers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Sampling:-

Water	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-

Miscellaneous:-

New buildings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	298
Moveable dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Gutters and water courses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	109
Rats and mice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	58
Building Licences	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Petroleum licences	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	58
Verminous houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Works in progress	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	193
Capital housing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	186
Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

Total 2245

It will be noted from the above table that the total number of inspections for all purposes exceeds 2,000 visits, an average of over 7 visits for each working day and it may be interesting to note that the greatest increase in visits are in the following duties. Improvement Grants - 283 visits against 62 in the previous year, drains and sewerage 685 visits against 323, inspection of new buildings and works in progress 491 visits against

140 visits.

With the resumption of meat inspection, expectly shortly and the resumption of slum clearance and repair of unfit houses a greater volume of work will have to be dealt with during the coming year and the number of inspections at present made is high for the staff employed.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

The amount of work undertaken is small and results so far have been satisfactory. No major infestation has been found or reported. No legal action has been taken during the year.

Shops Act, 1934.

Six inspections were made. No contraventions were found.

Camping Sites.

There are no licensed camping sites in the district.

Offensive Trades.

There are no trades under this heading.

Slaughterhouses.

There are four licensed slaughterhouses in the district, 3 of which are likely to be again used for public slaughtering next year. All are reasonably suitable for the purpose.

One new application for slaughtermans licence has been received. There are 23 licensed slaughtermen under the above Act.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

One case of infestation has been reported and the necessary action taken.

Schools.

Gradual improvement is being made to the sanitation of schools in the district. It is hoped that with the completion of sewage schemes this work will be speeded up.

The school canteens which have been regularly inspected have proved to be well run and kept in a clean condition.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

No public slaughtering is at present carried out except pigs for home use and no carcasses have been inspected. Four inspections have been made of butchers' shops.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Registration of premises under Section 14:

Ice Cream dealers	5
Ice Cream manufacturers	Nil.
Meat preparation	Nil.
Fish Friers	2

Septic Tanks and Cesspools.

A considerable amount of time has been taken up by the cleansing of septic tanks and cesspools and by the general maintenance of housing estate drainage systems, many of which are now becoming worn out. The service of emptying cesspools by mechanical means has been in use during the year.

Open Ditches.

In spite of additional duties over four miles of gutter and open ditches were cleansed over the year. This barely represents the total length of ditches in the area and a number of ditches still require attention. As sewage schemes have come into operation this task should become lighter.

Housing.

1. Number of new houses erected during the year:-

by local authority	18
by private enterprise	5

Number of houses under construction by Local Authority	10
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The 18 houses erected by the local authority were as follows:-

<u>Parish</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Type.</u>
Welburn	6	Traditional
Foston	2	"
Slingsby	10	"

Ten traditional type houses are in course of erection at Appleton-le-Street.

The number of persons without housing accommodation is small and it is felt that a start should now be made on re-housing persons living in sub-standard houses.

2. Inspection of Dwelling-Houses During the Year.

No work on the Rural Housing Survey has been possible during the year.

Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)	37.
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3. Remedy of Defects During the Year.

Number of defective dwelling-houses repaired or improved ...	25.
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4. Action Under Statutory Powers During the Year.

A. Proceedings under Sections, 9, 10, and 16 of
Housing Act, 1936:

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices
were served requiring repair | Nil |
| 2. Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered
fit after service of formal notices:- | |
| (a) By owners | Nil |
| (b) By local authority in lieu of owners | Nil |

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which
notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... | Nil |
| 2. Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were
remedied after service of formal notices:- | |
| (a) By owners | Nil |
| (b) By local authority in default of owners | Nil |

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which
Demolition Orders were made | Nil |
| 2. Number of dwelling-houses demolished in
pursuance of Demolition Orders... .. | Nil |

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

1. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. Nil.
2. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit... Nil.

5. Housing Act, 1936 - Overcrowding.

- A.
 1. Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year. 1.
 2. Number of families dwelling therein ... 3.
 3. Number of persons dwelling therein ... 9..
- B. Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... Nil.
- C. Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year... Nil.
- D. Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding. ... Nil.
- E. Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report ... Nil.

6. Housing Act, 1949.

Twelve applications for improvement grants were received during the year, all of which were approved. A substantial increase in the number of application should now be anticipated with the raising of the maximum approved expenditure limit and by the amendment allowing the retention of tied properties.

With the increased publicity that has been accorded to this Act, this valuable work should help to bring the houses into full occupation and go far to assist in maintaining the character and value of the rural community.